

textural qualities of *Ilex cassine* with the environmental adaptations of *Ilex opaca*. This new variety is adapted to the same landscape conditions and climatic range associated with *I. opaca*. Parental species have the same pest problems thus no improved pest tolerance has been observed.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of *Ilex X attenuata* plant named 'Xia Yen', as illustrated and described particularly as to the unique combination of:

- (a) annual abundant crops of fruit maturing to vibrant red in early fall then persisting until spring,
- (b) evergreen, fine textured leaves which retain lustrous green coloration even when plant is heavily berried,
- (c) produces an erect narrow symmetrical pyramidal crown without extensive shearing,
- (d) environmental tolerance equivalent to *I. opaca*.